

REMARKS

Per the non-final Office Action claims 1-56 are currently pending in the application and said claims have been renumbered as set of in the Claims Objections portion of said Office Action. Accordingly, the appended claim set is marked-up to indicate the correct claim numbers and the dependencies thereof. Applicants thank the Examiner for assisting with correcting these inadvertent errors.

Applicants have indicated that claims that have not been substantively amended (e.g., the claim number changed) are not indicated as amended but rather are indicated as "original" in the appended claim set. Claims that have been amended within the body of the claims (e.g., even if just to correct the dependency to reflect the original claims) *are indicated as amended* herein.

Applicants aver that the foregoing amendments do not relate to matters of patentability but rather are provided for consistency and for the convenience of the Examiner.

Herewith claims 1, 2, 20-22, 27-29, 37-38, and 40 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter thereof, and claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 30-36, 39, and 41-56 are amended. No new claims are added.

Applicants herewith amended the claims so that the objected to claims are now in condition for allowance and the remaining claims are now dependent upon one or more of said allowable claims (thus rendering the ground of rejection moot).

Accordingly, all presently pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance in due course so that the claimed invention may pass to timely issuance as U.S. Letters Patent.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any remaining issues regarding the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

/Paul H. McDowall/
Paul H. McDowall
Reg. No. 34,873
(763) 514-3351
Customer No. 27581